REMARKS

To advance the prosecution of the application, new claims 18-34 are presented herein, to further clarify the distinctions between the present invention and the cited references.

The present invention is particularly directed to the manner in which information concerning detected faults in a textile fabric is presented to producers and customers. As noted in the background portion of the application, textile fabrics are assessed by different individuals or institutions, each of whom may have their own set of criteria for determining the quality of a fabric. The present invention provides an approach to present the myriad amount of information available about faults in a manner which allows an individual to compare different fabrics to one another on the basis of those criteria that are important.

In essence, the Leuenberger '989 patent represents a starting point from which the present invention evolves. In that reference, an image is generated which displays defects in correspondence with their physical location on a woven fabric. In effect, the image is analogous to a picture of the fabric, in which the defects are highlighted with grayscale values, so that the viewer can assess the optical impact of different faults in a fabric. The image shown in Figure 3 of the Leuenberger patent is comparable to Figures 1 and 2 of the present application. In other words, information about detected faults is displayed in accordance with the geographical location of the faults on the fabric.

The claimed invention employs a different approach to the representation of information about detected faults. Specifically, the faults are evaluated according to two or more parameters of interest. The range of values for the parameters form the axes of the display. Various examples of two-dimensional displays are depicted in Figures 3-11 of the application. In each case, the horizontal axis represents the range of values for one of the parameters of interest, and the vertical axis depicts another parameter of interest. With this approach, faults of the same type

are classified together on the display. This permits data acquired from textile fabrics to be compared with one another, even if there are a number of faults within the same class.

As recited in new claim 18, one of the two parameters represented in the image pertains to the size of the detected faults. For instance, in the examples of Figures 3-5, 7, 9 and 11, the horizontal axis represents the length of the detected faults. In the example of Figure 6, the horizontal axis represents the area of detected faults, and in the example of Figure 8 the horizontal axis represents the number of unit fields covered by a fault, as depicted in Figure 2.

New claim 31 states that one of the two parameters pertains to the intensity of the detected faults. Examples in which intensity is represented by one of the axes in the image can be seen in Figures 6-10.

It is respectfully submitted that the Leuenberger patent does not anticipate, nor otherwise suggest, the claimed subject matter. In particular, it does not disclose the representation of detected faults of a textile fabric in an image where the data received is sorted and presented in accordance with the size and/or the intensity of the detected faults. Nor is such a feature suggested by the Brecher et al. patent that was applied in some of the previous rejections of the claims.

Favorable consideration of the claims is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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